

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Clear Critical Reading Quiz for High School Seniors

Students distinguish verified facts from subjective perspectives using contemporary media examples to sharpen foundational analysis skills.

1. Which of the following statements about George Orwell's '1984' represents a verifiable fact rather than an opinion?

Answer: C) The sentient surveillance entity in the book is known as Big Brother.

The name of a character or entity within a text is a factual detail that can be verified by reading the book, unlike the other options which are subjective judgments.

2. True or False: If an author uses emotional language to describe a historical event, the text is automatically considered a collection of facts.

Answer: B) False

Emotional language often signals a subjective perspective or opinion, even if it is based on real events.

3. When a reader looks for the 'author's purpose,' they are trying to determine if the text is meant to _____, inform, or entertain.

Answer: A) persuade

The three primary purposes for writing are conventionally identified as persuading, informing, and entertaining (PIE).

4. In a documentary about the impact of social media, which source would be considered the most reliable for providing objective data?

Answer: B) A peer-reviewed psychological study on screen time and dopamine.

Peer-reviewed studies undergo rigorous evaluation by experts to ensure accuracy and reliability, making them a primary objective source.

5. True or False: Identifying the 'target audience' of a speech helps a critical reader understand why the speaker chose specific words or examples.

Answer: A) True

Rhetorical choices are almost always tailored to the specific demographics and values of the intended audience.

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6. A reader who notices that a news report only interviews people from one side of a protest is identifying _____.

Answer: B) bias

Bias occurs when a presentation is one-sided or lacks a balanced perspective, often by omitting certain voices.

7. Which of these is an example of an 'opinion' in a review of a new electric vehicle?

Answer: C) The dashboard interface is frustrating and difficult to navigate.

Whether an interface is 'frustrating' is a subjective experience and varies by user, whereas range and release dates are objective facts.

8. True or False: 'Critical reading' means finding as many negative things about a text as possible.

Answer: B) False

Critical reading is about objective analysis and evaluation, not necessarily finding faults or being negative.

9. To evaluate a claim in an editorial, a reader must look for _____, such as statistics, expert testimony, or historical precedents.

Answer: C) evidence

Evidence is the foundation of any logical argument and is what critical readers use to judge the validity of a claim.

10. If a writer uses the phrase 'The candidate's plan is a bold leap into the future,' they are using _____ language to influence the reader.

Answer: C) loaded

'Loaded' language uses words with strong positive or negative connotations (like 'bold' or 'leap') to sway an audience's feelings.